



*Adopted*

ISSUE: Regional Medical Program Support of Recruitment  
and Basic Training of Health Personnel as Distinct  
from Continuing Education and Refresher Training

The Division staff offers the following background and suggested criteria to permit the Council to review and reaffirm its position on this issue:

While the wording of P.L. 89-239 is quite general, our educational programs have been limited to continuing education and training activities. The National Advisory Council discussed the parameters of support of educational activities at its June 21, 1966 meeting and accepted the position outlined in Doctor Marston's memo to the Council July 8, 1966. Since that time three major reviews of this position by Division staff have taken place: In preparation for June 1967 Coordinators' Conference; in preparation for Joint Training Committee meeting of National Heart Institute, January 9, 1968; and in preparation for the revision of the Guidelines.

As a general operational definition of continuing education and training, the following have been accepted: "Those educational endeavors which are above and beyond those normally considered appropriate for qualification or entrance into a health profession or an occupation in the health related fields."

Certain criteria have been adopted for deciding whether or not an activity is to be considered as continuing education and training, e.g. activities must in general not be those designed principally to qualify one for a degree, diploma, or Board certification; therefore, internship and residency programs have been excluded from primary consideration. The education and/or training activity should lead to the assumption of new responsibility in the already chosen career field, update knowledge and skill in the chosen career field, or update knowledge and skill in a different but related health field. In general, therefore, interest is in task-oriented training.

Training designed principally as preparation for a research career in the biomedical sciences have been excluded. It has been stated that Regional Medical Program funding is not to be used to replace existing sources of support for educational activities. In general Regional Medical Program funding should be used in conjunction with other available sources of funding, whenever possible.

It has been recognized from the beginning that most activities funded by Regional Medical Programs might theoretically be funded by other agencies. Criteria have been developed by which activities are judged with overlapping interest which is the area where recruitment and basic training requests usually fall, for example. . .

- . The activity must satisfy a documented need of a Regional Medical Program, and must be shown to have a relatively high priority for funding.
- . ~~Other avenues of funding must have been explored and found inadequate either by the Region or by the Continuing Education and Training Branch of the Division of Regional Medical Programs. In many cases, funding is requested for projects because of a lack of available funds by other agencies such as the Bureau of Health Manpower.~~
- . The Division of Regional Medical Programs or the Region itself must also explore the possibility of phasing out the Regional Medical Program funding as money becomes available from other sources. Other Federal agencies such as the Office of Education and the Department of Labor are beginning to support parts of recruitment and training activities affecting the health field.
- . The Region or the Continuing Education and Training Branch of the Division of Regional Medical Programs must have explored the possibility of joint funding with other interested agencies.

If the education and training activity has been shown to be necessary to achieving the purposes of a Regional Medical Program, and the above criteria have been met, then the proposed project may be approved for funding.